

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present Application. Claim 6 has been amended herein. Care has been exercised to introduce no new matter. Claims 6-11 are pending and are in condition for allowance.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 6 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jungreis, U.S. Patent No. 6,184,593 in view of Jungreis, U.S. Patent No. 6,541,940, Shimamori, U.S. Patent No. 5,737,202 and McCluskey, U.S. Patent No. 6,902,837.

Claims 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jungreis (U.S. Patent Nos. 6,184,593 and 6,541,940), in view of Shimamori, U.S. Patent No. 5,737,202, McCluskey, U.S. Patent No. 6,902,837 and Welches (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,655).

As amended, independent claim 6 is directed to a power supply system for providing reliable electric power to a telecommunications facility that contains telecommunications equipment, including the combination of an AC power source in the form of one or more microturbine generators operable to produce AC electrical power and adapted to be powered by a fuel, a DC power source including proton exchange membrane fuel cell modules receiving hydrogen fuel from storage tanks, and a plurality of individual rectifier/super capacitor devices. Each individual rectifier/super capacitor device includes a rectifier and a super capacitor housed together, whereby the rectifier converts AC electrical power to DC electrical power adaptable to power the telecommunication equipment. Each individual rectifier/super capacitor device also includes at least three connection points to which other devices may be coupled, the first connection point coupled internally to a rectifier AC input, the second connection point coupled internally to a rectifier DC output and a first side of the super

capacitor, and the third connection point coupled internally to a second side of the super capacitor, such that the AC power source is coupled to the first connection point, the second connection point is coupled to the telecommunication facility, and the third connection point is coupled to ground. Further, the power supply system includes a first switching mechanism and a sensing/control mechanism. The first switching mechanism is operable either to couple the one or more microturbine generators to the first connection point or to couple a commercial electric utility to the first connection point. The sensing/control mechanism is operable to determine when inadequate flow of the fuel is realized by one or more microturbine generators, and in response, direct the operation of the first switching mechanism to selectively couple the commercial electric utility to the first connection point.

It is believed that the combination of elements in amended claim 6 is not provided for in the cited prior art references, whether those references are taken singularly or in combination. Further, as claims 7-11 depend directly or indirectly from claim 6, it is respectfully asserted that the cited prior art references also do not anticipate or render obvious any of claims 7-11. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jungreis ('593) in view of Jungreis ('940), Shimamori, and McCluskey, and the rejection of claims 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jungreis ('593 and '940), in view of Shimamori, McCluskey and Welches, is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons stated above, claims 6-11 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of the claims. If any issues remain that would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned – 816-474-6550 or jbwilliams@shb.com (such communication via email is herein expressly granted) – to resolve the same. It is believed that no fee is due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required to Deposit Account No. 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

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